

COMPREHENSIVE **LAND USE PLAN**

For Areas Within the Jurisdiction of the
Maine Land Use Regulation Commission



Department of Conservation
Maine Land Use Regulation Commission

Maine has always been proud of its wildlands – the Big Woods, land of Indian and trapper, of white pine tall enough for masts on His Majesty's ships, of mountain lion, moose, and eagle. Much of the wildness was still there when Thoreau went in by birchbark canoe, a little over a century ago. And much of it remains. There is spruce and fir, moose and beaver, lake and mountain and whitewater enough to satisfy generations of Americans. More and more, as northeastern U.S. develops, the Maine woods are becoming an almost unparalleled resource, both for tree production and for recreational opportunity. But who is to come forward to say that this resource must not be squandered? Can we guarantee that the next generations will be able to set out in a canoe and know that adventure is just around the bend?

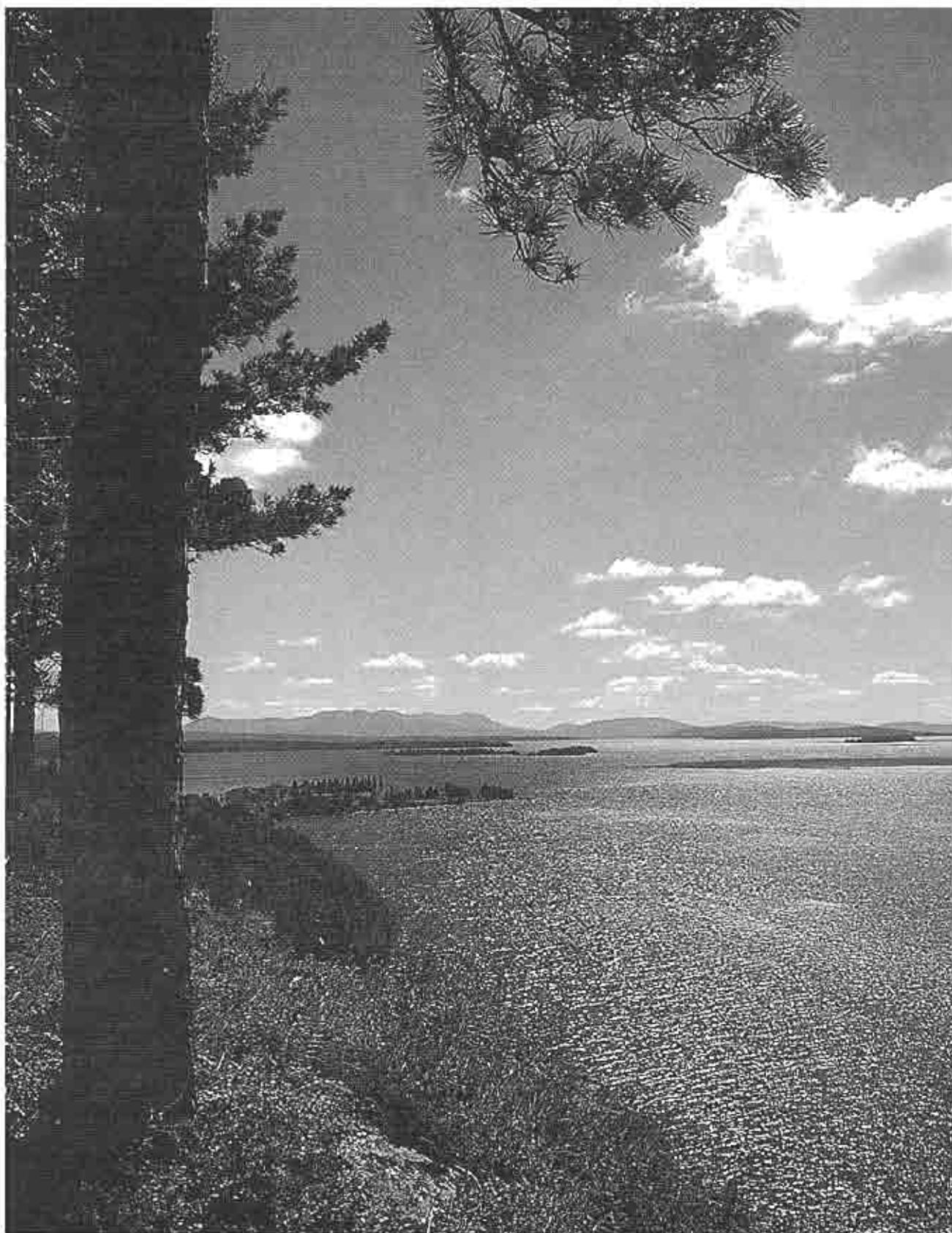
"Report on the Wildlands"
State of Maine
Legislative Research Committee
Publication 104-1A, 1969

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Originally adopted in 1976
Revised in 1983, 1990 and 1997



Moosehead Lake



ANGUS S. KING, JR.
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
1 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

March 27, 1997

Land Use Regulation Commission Members
Department of Conservation
22 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0022

Dear Commission Members:

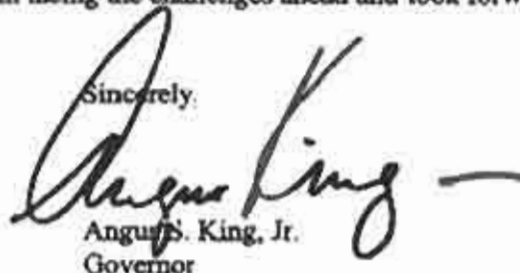
I am pleased to approve the Land Use Regulation Commission's revised Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Congratulations on a job well done.

I am particularly pleased that the Plan recognizes the need to encourage economic development in appropriate areas as well as to protect the resources in Maine's wildlands. Although it is a difficult task, there is no question in my mind that we need to accomplish both objectives. I firmly believe we have a responsibility to future generations to protect what is special about the wildlands. At the same time, we have a responsibility to provide quality jobs for Maine people. Obviously the timber, energy, and mineral resources of the wildlands will play a key role in our economy in the years ahead.

I am also pleased that the Plan identifies further means for streamlining the permitting process and encourages landowner initiatives and cooperative efforts to accomplish the Commission's objectives.

LURC's record demonstrates that with judicious planning and well reasoned decisions, we can protect special natural values while allowing needed economic growth. I urge you to continue on this responsible course of action in facing the challenges ahead and look forward to working with you to implement this plan.

Sincerely,



Angus S. King, Jr.
Governor

ASK/isa



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Acknowledgements

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Stephen W. Wight, Newry, Chairman
Malachi F. Anderson, Woodland
Mary Beth Dolan, Monhegan Island Plantation
Robert C. Hazelwood, Township 6, ND
Theresa S. Hoffman, Newburgh
Steven O. Mason, Beaver Cove
Marilyn K. Tourtelotte, Willimantic

Former members of the Land Use Regulation Commission who also provided guidance in the drafting of this revised Plan were:

Charles P. O'Brien, Jackman
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Several public hearings were held around the state during 1996 on previous drafts of this Plan. Several hundred individuals attended these hearings and provided hundreds of pages of written comments. We thank all of those interested citizens.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page	
Chapter 1: The Maine Land Use Regulation Commission	1	1
Chapter 2: The Jurisdiction and Its Residents	15	2
Chapter 3: Natural and Cultural Resources	21	3
Agricultural Resources	21	
Air Resources	23	
Coastal Resources	26	
Cultural, Archaeological and Historical Resources	34	
Energy Resources	39	
Forest Resources	41	
Geologic and Mountain Resources	52	
Recreational Resources	60	
Special Natural Areas	76	
Water Resources	79	
Wetland Resources	89	
Wildlife and Fisheries Resources	92	
Chapter 4: Development	97	4
Inventory of Land Use and Development	97	
Evaluation of Development Trends and the Commission's Approach to Development	114	
Development Issues and Recommended Refinements	125	
Chapter 5: Goals and Policies for the Future	133	5
Vision for the Jurisdiction	133	
Goals and Policies	134	
Chapter 6: Implementation	145	6
Statutory Matters	145	
Guiding the Location of Development	146	
Rule Changes	148	
Inventory Needs	151	
Education, Enforcement and Public Assistance	152	
Other Actions	154	
Implementation Schedule	155	
Maps		
Jurisdiction Map	2	
Sample Zoning Map	7	
Distribution of Permits for Building Units, 1971-91	103	

Distribution of Permits for Subdivision Units, 1971-91	
Example of Land Division Exempt from Subdivision Review	
Example of Land Division Exempt from Subdivision Review	117
Distribution of Permits for Large Lot Land Divisions, 1982-91	123

Appendices	1
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- A. Definitions
- B. Rivers With Special Protection Zoning
- C. Land Use Regulation Commission's Lake Management Program
- D. LURC Permitting Statistics
- E. Land Use Regulation Commission's Policies Concerning Deer Yard Issues
- F. Plantations and Towns in the Jurisdiction
- G. Fastest Growing Communities in LURC Jurisdiction, 1971-91
- H. Sources



Natans and Long Ponds